Pollinator Bingo

What is in a typical pollinator garden? Use this bingo sheet to see if you can spot indicators of a healthy pollinator habitat in your own backyard!





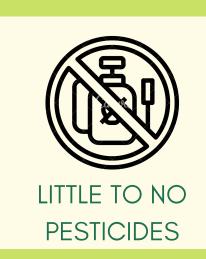














The City of Waukegan is committed to creating pollinator habitat and educating residents on how to do the same. Visit our website for more information: https://www.waukeganil.gov/834/Sustainability



What's in my pollinator habitat, and why?

BEES

There are many different animal pollinators out there, but bees are among the most effective and efficient. Last year, the Earthwatch Institute deemed bees the most important living being on Earth. Keep a lookout for bees in your garden – it's a sign its healthy and doing well!

GRASSES

Native grasses are critical in the life cycle of many pollinators because they provide shelter for insects as well as habitat for eggs, caterpillars, and pupae of butterflies. They are crucial for a functional pollinator garden!

FLOWERS

Nectar of native flowers are the main food source for many pollinators. To attract a diverse set of pollinators to your garden, plant flowers of a variety of colors, shapes, and flowering times. And to attract monarch butterflies, always remember to plant milkweed, the host plant and food source for monarch eggs and caterpillars.

DIRT & LEAVES

Insect pollinators often use dirt and leaves are as habitat for nesting and laying eggs. To provide a safe place for insects to emerge and grow, it is important to leave small patches of bare ground, leaves, and other garden debris in your garden.

BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies are beautiful pollinators. The monarch butterfly, whose populations have declined by 90% in the last 20 years, is a particularly important pollinator, with its migration story resonating with people across the county. Spotting this butterfly, among others, in your garden is a treat and can be a sign you have high quality pollinator habitat!

SUNNY SPOTS

Many bees and butterflies need warm, sunny spots in a garden to get energized and dry off any dew which could weigh them down. Plants that attract pollinators need ample sun too.

WATER

Pollinators need water for drinking and reproduction. A healthy pollinator garden should provide a source of water, like a bird bath or something as simple as a shallow dish.

LITTLE TO NO PESTICIDES

Contact pesticides sprayed on plants can kill bees and other pollinators when they crawl over these sprayed surfaces. Consider using safer alternatives to pesticides which do not threaten important pollinators.

HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds are amazing pollinators which are known to drink up to two times their body weight per day! Hummingbirds pollinate wildflowers (they prefer red flowers) and add character to your backyard - keep a lookout for these brightly colored birds!

